

and simple agenda, profound agenda and is willing to share results and credit for results when they happen.

I am proud that this Democrat Member from Alabama voted for tax relief. He deserves just as much credit as the two men sitting next to him as a Republican. You see, party is important. But it's not nearly as important as doing what's right for the American people. It's not nearly as important as setting the right example for the children of America, as well.

Well, things are getting pretty good up there in Washington, and I'm honored to be your President. I tell you, one of the things I was sharing with the Members here coming down that I'm so proud of, and it happened here again, and it's going to happen all across the country every time I travel, is, one, the number of people who come out just to wave. People of the country respect the Presidency. Sometimes they like the President, but they respect the Presidency, and for that I am grateful. It reminds me of the huge responsibility I have, a responsibility that I'll take seriously and a responsibility that I hold dear to my heart, and that is to call upon the best of America.

And this is an appropriate setting for me to speak briefly about that. The best of America happens when some neighbor says, "What can I do to help a neighbor in need?" The best in America happens when people hear the universal call to love a neighbor just like you'd like to be loved yourself. The best of America occurs when people walk up and say, "Mr. President, I'm praying for you." The best of this country happens when decent citizens work hard to make their neighborhoods and communities a better place for every citizen, regardless of accent, background, religion, or color.

And the good news about being the President is that I am fortunate enough to be the President of a country full of people just like that, full of the best of the country.

So it's my honor to talk about kind of what's going on in the Nation's Capital, a little bit about the budget, talk about some of our successes, to outline a very important conservation and environmental policy that

will make a huge difference all across the country.

But also it's my opportunity to thank the good people of Alabama for giving me a chance to be the President of the greatest Nation on the face of the Earth.

Thank you all for coming, and God bless.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:47 p.m. In his remarks, he referred to Lt. Gov. Steve Windom, Attorney General Bill Pryor, and Director of Parks Don Cooley of Alabama; James Shivers, superintendent, Oak Mountain State Park; and Ray Scott, founder, Bass Anglers Sportsman Society.

Statement on the Announcement of Criminal Indictments for the Khobar Towers Bombing

June 21, 2001

On June 25, 1996, a massive truck bomb exploded outside the Khobar Towers apartment complex in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia, killing 19 American servicemen and injuring 372 other Americans and Saudis. For the last 5 years, the Department of Justice and the Federal Bureau of Investigation have conducted an intensive investigation of this deplorable act of terrorism.

Today the Department of Justice announced criminal indictments of 14 people, 13 Saudis and one Lebanese, for conspiring and carrying out the bombing of Khobar Towers. The Department's investigation into this matter will continue and additional charges are possible.

I applaud the work of the Department of Justice and the FBI who have spent countless hours pursuing this case. And I want to thank the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for their assistance in this investigation. Finally, and most important, to the families of those who were killed and to those who were injured, I want to extend my personal sympathy and to assure you that your Government will not forget your loss and will continue working, based on the evidence, to make sure that justice is done.

Videotaped Remarks in a Tribute to Tommy G. Thompson

June 21, 2001

Well, thank you all very much. I'm honored to join so many good friends. And I'm pleased to help pay tribute to a great Governor, a great Cabinet Secretary, and a good man, my friend Tommy Thompson.

Tonight we salute Tommy Thompson for his 14 years as Wisconsin's Governor. For almost a decade and a half, Tommy was a pioneer. From school choice to health care, Tommy was always on the cutting edge, looking for new ideas even while holding to timeless principles.

Perhaps his greatest legacies were in changing the way the government treats the poor and empowering thousands of people by replacing their welfare checks with paychecks. Not long ago, welfare reform was just a dream. Today, thanks in large part to Tommy Thompson, welfare reform is the law.

Tommy Thompson is one of the finest public servants in America. His commitment is matched by his courage, and his diligence is equaled by his devotion. These days, Tommy is bringing his commonsense leadership and results-oriented approach to the Department of Health and Human Services. He is leading the way as our administration works to promote the health and welfare of all Americans through greater research, new technologies, and sound science. I'm honored to have this good man as a part of my team.

So Tommy, thanks for who you are and what you do. You have made a difference in the lives of so many people in Wisconsin, just as you are now making a difference in the lives of so many Americans.

Thank you very much, and God bless.

NOTE: The President's remarks were videotaped at approximately 4:30 p.m. on June 19 in the Library at the White House for a tribute to Tommy Thompson at the Metropolitan Milwaukee Chamber of Commerce in Milwaukee, WI, on June 21. The transcript was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on June 21. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Remarks at a Dinner for Senator Jeff Sessions in Birmingham

June 21, 2001

Thank you all very much. Thank you, all. Be seated. Jeff said, "Why don't you come over to Birmingham and have dinner with a couple of my buddies." [Laughter] I said, "Okay." I'm glad I came. Thank you for that warm welcome, and thank you for giving me the chance to be the President of the greatest Nation on the face of the Earth.

First, I'm here to urge the people of Alabama to send this good man, Jeff Sessions, back to the United States Senate. He's doing a great job. He's a solid citizen who brings integrity to the office. Plus, he's got a friend in the White House. [Laughter] He married well, too. [Laughter] It's good to be here with Mary.

I'm so sorry that my wife isn't here. I can't tell you how proud I am of Laura. She's made a big difference already in the White House. She has trained one small puppy. [Laughter] She keeps her husband in line. And she brings a lot of class to the Office of the First Lady, and I'm proud of her.

After I speak, I'm heading to our ranch in central Texas, where I will spend some quality time with Laura. And frankly, I'm honored to be here. I'm looking forward to sharing some wisdom—but I can't wait to get back home. [Laughter] Washington, DC, is a great place to work, but Texas is a great place to relax.

I'm honored to be here, as well, with the Lieutenant Governor of the State of Alabama, Steve Windom; the attorney general, Bill Pryor. I'm so pleased that my friend Bill Cabaniss is here. I want to thank the Members of the United States Congress who have traveled here with me today: the Congressman from this district, Spencer Bachus; Robert Aderholt; Terry Everett; Congressman Bob Riley; and Sonny Callahan. This is a fine delegation from Alabama who are conservative and compassionate, and I'm proud to call them friends, and you ought to be proud to call them Members of the United States Congress.

I want to thank—I don't know if Red Blount is here or not, but I spent a little time in Alabama in 1972 working for Red Blount's